



The Day It Rained FISH

Illustrated by **Delwyn Remedios**

Written by **Ramendra Kumar**



‘The Day It Rained Fish’ by Ramendra Kumar

Illustrations: Delwyn Remedios

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Avanti was the zookeeper of Pitara zoo. There were many, many animals in Pitara, but Avanti's best friend was Ballu, the bear. Ballu was big, brown and strong. On his fourth birthday, Avanti organised a little party for Ballu.



"Ballu, can you blow out all the candles at once?" Avanti asked.

"Of course!" said Ballu. He filled his chest with air. He huffed and puffed and puffed and huffed and went "WHOOSH!"



The blast of air blew the candles out. Then rising up, it crashed into the clouds in the sky. And all of a sudden, there was a roar of thunder and it started to rain.

"Hey, it's raining fish," Avanti shouted.



Ballu looked around with wonder. Then he picked up a huge basket and ran around collecting fish as they fell from the sky.

Every time the basket filled up, he dropped the fish in a little pond and ran back for more.



Then, as he was rushing for the tenth time to the pond, he turned back.
The water level had risen and he could see that Avanti was scared.



Ballu came back quickly, picked up Avanti and placed her on his shoulders. Avanti put her arms around Ballu's neck and thanked him.

Soon, the clouds disappeared and the sun came out. It was bright and cheerful once again.



"I will never again ask you to blow the candles out," said Avanti.

"Why?" asked Ballu.

"Who knows? Next time it might start raining frogs," Avanti said and the two friends started laughing.



This story has been inspired by an entry to an illustration contest conducted by Pratham Books. Hundreds of such illustrations and stories, are now available for free on Pratham Books' open-source repository of digital stories — **StoryWeaver**.
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An award winning author, Ramendra Kumar has written many books for children. His work has been translated into several Indian languages as well as Chinese, Spanish, Japanese, Mongolian and Sinhala. He is also an inspirational speaker and storyteller for children.



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Delwyn Remedios is an alumnus from the National Institute of Design, in Animation Film Design. His student films have received national and international recognition. He has done a variety of work in the educational and eLearning industry and is currently a Design Faculty at IIT Hyderabad.

**Who would have thought a birthday party could make fish fall from the sky!
Was it the birthday wish of Ballu, the bear?**

Learning to read – level by level. This is a Level 2 book.

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who are eager to begin
reading and listening to
stories

1

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words and can
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with help

2

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who can read with
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4

3

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